

Ellanor C. Lawrence Park Visit our website, www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/ecl

ANTS

Teacher's Outline Grade – Kindergarten, First Grade

This is a basic outline of the Ants program at Ellanor C. Lawrence Park. The specifics may vary according to the needs of the group, the weather and unforeseen situations.

Time: 1 hour

Concepts: -Ants have a four-stage life cycle and certain physical characteristics.

- -Ants live in colonies.
- -Individual ants in a colony have specialized jobs.
- -Ants eat and store a variety of foods.
- I. Activities in the Ant Colony
 - A. Gather class in circle and introduce staff and program.
 - B. Assign all class members a life cycle stage or a job performed by ants in the colony. Props or nametags will be provided. For example, nurse ants will be loaned a small baby bottle; cleaning ants will be loaned a small broom, etc.
 - C. Applause, applause for a hard working ant colony.
- II. Observation of Ant Colonies
 - A. Some honey will be spread on an ant hill, and the children will observe ants foraging for food.
 - B. A brief discussion will follow on how the ants store food underground.
- III. Trail Hike to search for ants in forest
 - A. Roll over a small log; look under a rock for ant colonies.

 Adult group leaders will be asked to help with this activity.
 - B. Point out physical characteristics of ants.
 - C. Wrap up review needs of ants, etc.